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DD/S 55-3402

21 December 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Defense Contracts

1. As noted in the attached clipping, Mr. Vinson is attacking the Department of Defense for using its negotiating authorities in procurement rather than the public bid and award system. Roger Jones tells us that Mr. Vinson has just begun to open up and will pursue the Air Force particularly in this regard.

2. Since we are going up for some logistics authorities in our legislation, it seems to me we should be well prepared on our record in this respect. In this connection I think Project AQUATONE should be kept separate and apart from our general procurement and considered a special problem between ourselves and the Air Force. If you agree you may wish to pass this on to Mr. Garrison.

(signed)

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

Attachment

cc: SA/DCI/PC
Legislative Counsel

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